

From: "Pat Schwinn" <pschwinn@earthlink.net>
To: <docket@energy.state.ca.us>
Date: 8/11/2005 8:13:00 PM
Subject: Docket No. 04-IEP-1G, Assessment of Avian Mortality from Collisions and Electrocutions

PDF version of e-mail / letter attached.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to state my opinion that the entire CEC staff report on Altamont Pass should be accepted by the Energy Commission.

1) The CEC's research has been crucial to identifying the scope of the avian mortality problem caused by wind turbines at Altamont Pass and elsewhere. The CEC has funded research that the industry refused to fund, despite the knowledge it was causing massive raptor mortality at Altamont Pass with no effective mitigation plan for reducing that mortality.

2) The CEC needs to stay involved in research in the future, not just at Altamont but throughout California as wind power projects are proposed throughout the state. The CEC needs to continue research to identify effective mitigation for the next generations of turbines and proposed new wind power sites.

3) CEC staff and contractors have done a superlative job in conducting objective scientific research and providing critical information for resource and permitting agencies, including the CA Attorney General, CA Dept. of Fish and Game, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Alameda County. CEC staff and contractors should be commended, not attacked for their work.

4) The CEC has effectively communicated with all stakeholders throughout their research. For their watershed August 2004 report on Altamont Pass, CEC contractors met repeatedly with the wind industry and their consultants throughout their research period. They shared their preliminary results with industry in the year before publication of the report, gave drafts to industry to review before publication, and incorporated all industry comments.

Sincerely,

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